

Montana State Hospital - Tobacco Free Campus

Coming June 1, 2009

Purpose

To promote a safe and healthy treatment environment on the Montana State Hospital Campus by prohibiting the use of tobacco products by employees, persons receiving services, and visitors. Montana State Hospital is committed to providing all admitted individuals tobacco use screening, tobacco use counseling, cessation therapy as appropriate, tobacco health related information, education, resources and support in their effort to quit tobacco use.

Montana State Hospital is joining other state hospitals across the country that are tobacco free. Research shows that people with serious mental illnesses face a life expectancy that is about 25 years less than the national average due to the prevalence of tobacco use and other factors affecting one's health status.

As a healthcare organization, we are committed to the health and safety of our employees and the people we serve. This tobacco free initiative is a concrete way we can demonstrate our ongoing commitment to healthy living.

Prevalence of Tobacco Use Among Americans with Mental Illness

- 20% of Americans have mental illness at any point in time
- Nicotine dependent at rates 2-3 times higher than general population
- Represent 44.3% of the U.S. tobacco market
- Represent 7.1% of the total U.S. population but consume 34.2% of all cigarettes smoked.

—Lasser, K et al; JAMA 284:2606-10, 2000

What This Means to You

Persons who are referred, transferred, or admitted to our facility will not be permitted to use tobacco products during their hospitalization nor have tobacco products and/or paraphernalia on the hospital campus. Likewise, all visitors, employees, vendors, community agencies, and law enforcement personnel will not be permitted to use tobacco products while they are on the hospital campus.

Persons Served

The Hospital will not store tobacco products and/or paraphernalia during your stay. Items in your possession at admission will be disposed of or packaged and sent to a designated address at your expense. Persons receiving services will be assessed regarding nicotine use/addiction upon admission and will be provided with information on tobacco cessation and the various treatment options available.

Visitors, Family, and Friends

Please refrain from bringing tobacco products to Montana State Hospital and/or using tobacco products while visiting the hospital campus.

Please do not send any packages containing tobacco products and/or paraphernalia to persons receiving treatment at the hospital.

